

**George Washington to John Parke, April 3, 1776,
Orders, The Writings of George Washington from
the Original Manuscript Sources, 1745-1799. John C.
Fitzpatrick, Editor.**

ORDERS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO JOHN PARKE¹

Head Quarters, Cambridge, April 3, 1776.

It being found necessary for the public Service that Qt. Master General, Colonel Thomas Mifflin should be dispatched to New York, and the Command in his Department devolving on you, be it your Care to see that the Clerks, Commissary Waggon Masters, Armourers, Artificers, and the Servants of the Public of every Denomination within your Inspection, are diligent in executing your Commands, and forwarding the public Service. As a Number of Waggons will this Day be sent by the Legislature of this Province, for the Purpose of transporting Stores &c. to Norwich, those intended for the Qr. Master General, you will direct to be loaded with the Articles first in Request upon the Army's assembling at their general Rendezvous: such as, Camp Equipage, intrenching Tools, cooking Utensils &c., with all the Articles now in Store belonging to the various Branches in the Qr. Mr. Genl. Department. A Waggon Master and some of the Clerks, must accompany these Teams to Norwich, and see that every Thing sent from hence, is faithfully delivered there.

As some Teamsters have lately drop'd their Lading upon the Road at Waltham, you will order Waggon Master Goddard to see it sent forward immediately, and be very strict for the future, that every Teamster is made answerable for the Load he receives; by your ordering a Clerk to enter in a Book, the Teamster's Name, Place of Abode, & Bill of Lading. A Copy of the Bill of Lading must also be given to the Teamster, upon the Back of which

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the Receiver of his Load at Norwich should be directed to write the Certificate for the Payment; and unless a Teamster can produce such Certificate of Delivery, he is not to receive any Money for his Services.

When all the Stores in your Department directed to be carried from hence to New York, are sent forward & the necessary Directions given to the Person who remains as Assistant Qt. Mr. General to the Troops in this District, you will then without Delay, proceed to New York, by the Way of Norwich in Connecticut. Upon your Arrival at Norwich you will see that all the Stores are sent before you from thence, and upon your being certain that it is effected, you cannot get too soon to New York, where you will report your whole Proceedings to Colonel Mifflin, produce and settle your Accounts with him.

Depending much upon your Diligence, Activity and Fidelity, I rest satisfied that no Part of the public Service committed to your Care, and Guidance will be in the least neglected.²

¹ol. John Parke, Assistant Quartermaster General of the 1ontinental Army.

²he draft is in the writing of 2homas Mifflin.